

Claims

1. A nutritional or pharmaceutical composition comprising fructo-oligoasaccharide (FOS) and galacto-oligoasaccharide (GOS).
- 5 2. The compositions according to claim 1 wherein FOS contains up to about 95% by weight of oligofructose composed of chains with a degree of polymerisation ranging from about 2 to about 7 and GOS contains up to about 95% by weight of oligogalactose composed of chains with a degree of polymerisation ranging from about 2 to about 7.
- 10 3. The composition according to any preceding claim wherein the weight ratio FOS:GOS is from about 0.01 to about 50.
4. The composition according to any preceding claim wherein the weight ratio FOS:GOS is from about 0.5 to about 2.
- 15 5. The composition according to any preceding claim wherein the amount of the FOS and GOS blend is comprised between about 0.05 and about 40% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.
- 20 6. The composition according to any preceding claim which is a high calorie composition.
7. The composition according to any preceding claim which comprises more than about 1en% protein, based on the total caloric content of the composition.
- 25 8. The composition according to any preceding claim which is a complete formula diet.
9. The composition according to any preceding claim which comprises, per 100ml: from about 1 to about 3g FOS, from about 1 to about 3g GOS, from about 2 to about 20 g proteins, from about 1 to about 30 g carbohydrates, from about 0.5 to about 20 g fats, as well
30 as minerals and vitamins.
10. The composition according to claim 9 which comprises, per 100ml: about 1.25g FOS, about 1.25g GOS, about 9g proteins, about 22g carbohydrates and about 9g fats.

11. The composition according to any preceding claim which is a ready-for-consumption composition.

5 12. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 7 for use as a medicament.

13. Use of a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 11 in the manufacture of a medicament or nutritional composition for treating or preventing gastrointestinal disorders, such as diarrhoea and constipation.

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14. Use of a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 11 in the manufacture of a medicament or nutritional composition for maintaining and/or restoring the intestinal flora.

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15. Use of a composition according to any of claims 1 to 11 in the manufacture of a medicament or nutritional composition for the prevention or treatment of inflammatory bowel disease, in particular ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, and/or to prevent colon cancer.

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16. Use of a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 11 in the manufacture of a medicament or nutritional composition for stimulating the growth of bifidobacteria and/or lactobacilli and/or inhibiting the growth of at least one of bacteroides, clostridia, coliforms, sulphate reducing bacteria.

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17. Use of a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 11 in the manufacture of a medicament or nutritional composition for the prevention or treatment of infection by pathogenic gut bacteria.